

Dear Department of Health and Human Services,

I am writing to urge HHS to **reject** the Proposed Rule, published July 2, 2009, that would end the ban on HIV-positive visitors and immigrants to the United States.

Doing away with this ban would cause the citizens of the United States to suffer increased exposure to an incurable sexually transmitted disease that often ends in early death. Citizens would be exposed to mutant strains of the virus, increasing the likelihood of suffering for those who are unlucky enough to come into intimate contact with the bodily fluids of those "visitors."

Furthermore, the costs of increased HIV+ citizens and visitors would stress our economy, not to mention our insurance and healthcare system, to the breaking point. It is estimated that each HIV+ patient costs over \$400,000 during the course of his/her treatment. We cannot afford to cure the world of its ill patients when we can barely care for the ills of our own citizens.

I feel that HIV belongs on the banned lists along with other dangerous diseases such as TB, syphilis and gonorrhea.

Sincerely,